

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An airbag assembly, comprising:
an inflatable curtain having a gas inlet for receiving a gas guide and at least one mounting location for mounting the inflatable curtain to a vehicle; and
a stiffening member having a stiffness greater than the inflatable curtain, the stiffening member extending adjacent the at least one mounting location and along a length of the inflatable curtain such that the stiffening member is connectable to the gas guide, wherein the stiffening member is a bar-shaped elongated planar member.

Claim 2 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 1, further comprising a channel in the inflatable curtain disposed adjacent the inlet and the at least one mounting location, the stiffening member being located within the channel.

Claim 3 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 2, wherein the channel is formed integral with a material of the inflatable curtain.

Claim 4 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 2, wherein the channel is attached to the inflatable curtain.

Claim 5 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein the stiffening member is an elongated plastic component.

Claim 6 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein the stiffening member is an elongated metal component.

Claim 7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein the at least one mounting location is at least one attachment tab located on an upper edge of the inflatable curtain.

Claim 9 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 8, further comprising at least one mounting clip that receives the at least one attachment tab and the stiffening member adjacent the at least one attachment tab.

Claim 10 (original) : The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein the stiffening member has an attaching portion that can connect to a defined location on the gas guide.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The airbag assembly of claim 10, wherein the ~~further comprising an inflator having a gas guide that extends from the~~ an inflator to the inlet of the inflatable curtain.

Claim 12 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 11, wherein the defined location on the gas guide is a protrusion.

Claim 13 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 12, wherein the attaching portion on the stiffening member is an orifice that engages the protrusion on the gas guide.

Claim 14 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 11, wherein the stiffening member is rigidly connected to the gas guide to prevent twisting of the inflatable curtain between the gas guide and the at least one mounting location.

Claim 15 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein the stiffening member extends proximate the gas inlet.

Claim 16 (currently amended): An airbag assembly, comprising:

an inflatable curtain having an inlet for receiving a gas guide and at least one mounting locations for mounting the inflatable curtain proximate a roof rail of a vehicle, the inflatable curtain further comprising a channel disposed adjacent the inlet and the at least one mounting location; and

a stiffening member having a stiffness greater than the inflatable curtain, the stiffening member disposed within the channel and extending adjacent the at least one mounting location and along a length of the inflatable curtain to proximate the inlet, the stiffening member having an attaching portion connectable to a defined location on the gas guide, wherein the stiffening member is rigidly connected to the gas guide to prevent twisting of the inflatable curtain between the gas guide and the at least one mounting location.

Claim 17 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 16, wherein the channel is formed integral with a material of the inflatable curtain.

Claim 18 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 16, wherein the channel is attached to the inflatable curtain.

Claim 19 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 17, wherein the stiffening member is a bar-shaped elongated planar member.

Claim 20 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 19, wherein the at least one mounting locations are at least one attachment tabs located on an upper edge of the inflatable curtain.

Claim 21 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 20, further comprising at least one mounting clips that receive the at least one attachment tabs and the stiffening member adjacent the at least one attachment tab.

Claim 22 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 21, wherein the bar-shaped elongated planar member is plastic.

Claim 23 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 21, wherein the bar-shaped elongated planar member is metal.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The airbag assembly of claim 21, wherein the ~~further comprising an inflator having a~~ gas guide ~~that~~ extends from ~~the~~ an inflator to the inlet of the inflatable curtain.

Claim 25 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 24, wherein the defined location on the gas guide is a protrusion.

Claim 26 (original): The airbag assembly of claim 25, wherein the attaching portion on the stiffening member is an orifice that engages the protrusion on the gas guide.

Claim 27 (canceled)

Claims 28-45 (canceled)